

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hai H. Trieu

Examiner: Anu Ramana

Serial No.: 10/717,693

Art Unit: 3775

Filed: November 20, 2003

Dated: December 22, 2009

For: **SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES
FOR INTRAVERTEBRAL SPINAL
STABILIZATION WITH
EXPANDABLE DEVICES**

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INCLUDING AMENDMENT

Examiner:

This amendment is being submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed October 27, 2009 ("Office Action"), which set a shortened statutory period of three months for response and is being filed timely by the Two Month Date upon mailing with an executed Certificate of Mailing on or before December 27, 2009. (37 C.F.R. 1.8). It is believed that this response does not occasion any additional fees or extensions of time, but should there be any need for such an extension of time please treat this paper as such and charge (or credit) any extension fees, or any additional fees that may be due herein, to Deposit Account No. **04-1121**. Entry of the amendments to the claims herein is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2; and

Remarks begin on page 7.

Certificate of EFS-Web Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via the Office's electronic filing system on December 22, 2009.

Dated: December 22, 2009

/PeterBSorell/
Peter B. Sorell